

Message Text

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70

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 PA-03

PRS-01 CU-04 RSR-01 /046 W

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R 201715Z AUG 73

FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1292

USIA WASHDC

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE MOSCOW 9907

USIA FOR IEE

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, UR

SUBJECT: IZVESTIYA TAKES SCALPEL TO AP

REF: MOSCOW 9606

1. AS PART OF POSITIVE-THINKING CAMPAIGN FOR UNIVERSIADE GAMES, IZVESTIYA AUG. 18 CRITICIZED UNNAMED AP REPORTER (FYI, SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT WILL GRIMSLEY) FOR QUOTING AMERICAN GYMNAST JOHN CROSBY, OPERATED ON IN MOSCOW HOSPITAL FOR ACUTE APPENDICITIS, TO AFFECT THAT CONDITIONS THERE "CERTAINLY NOT THE SAME" AS IN U.S. IZVESTIYA IN TURN QUOTES BOTH CROSBY AND U.S. DELEGATION DOCTOR ON EXCELLENT TREATMENT AND CONCLUDES, "AMERICAN SPORTSMEN TRULY WERE ASHAMED OF THE SHAMELESSNESS OF THIS IMPUDENT REPORTER." NOTED WITHOUT COMMENT WAS AP CHARACTERIZATION OF AMERICAN SPORTSMEN AS PRISONERS IN MOSCOW UNIVERSITY HEADQUARTERS (SEE REFTEL).

2. COMMENT: SOVIET RESTRAINT TOWARD EARLIER AP AND OTHER PRESS DIGS AT EXTREMELY TIGHT SECURITY RESTRICTIONS HAD BROUGHT ONLY OBLIQUE REACTIONS LIKE TASS ENGLISH REPORTS ABOUT HOW HAPPY DELEGATIONS, ESPECIALLY U.S., WERE WITH ARRANGEMENTS. (E.G.,
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IZVESTIYA AUG. 17 RAN 10 INCHES ALONG THESE LINES FROM

U.S. OFFICIALS.) ALTHOUGH RUSSIANS ANXIOUS TO MAKE
UNIVERSIADE ALL-AROUND SUCCESS, SUBSTANTIVE QUESTION
LIKE MEDICAL ATTENTION NOT ONLY TOUCHES NORMAL
SENSITIVITIES BUT CASTS POTENTIAL SHADOW FOR FUTURE
OLYMPICS THEY HOPE TO ATTRACT.
DUBS

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 20 AUG 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: garlanwa
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973MOSCOW09907
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: MOSCOW
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19730828/aaaaauas.tel
Line Count: 67
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: MOSCOW 9606
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: garlanwa
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 26 SEP 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <26-Sep-2001 by elyme>; APPROVED <03-Dec-2001 by garlanwa>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: IZVESTIYA TAKES SCALPEL TO AP
TAGS: PFOR, UR
To: STATE USIA
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005